

Nutrition Specialist

DESCRIPTION OF WORK: Positions in this banded class plan, implement, and modify nutritional programs to assist in the promotion of health and control of disease. Work requires professional knowledge of the principles and practices of food and nutrition. Positions analyze clinical and nutritional data in order to recommend appropriate supplemental foods based upon the clients' nutritional needs and food preferences; instruct patients, students, and other professionals and paraprofessionals regarding medical nutrition therapy, techniques, and procedures; collect, compile, evaluate, and analyze patient data; and may manage small nutritional, education, outreach, and wellness programs.

EXAMPLES OF COMPETENCIES: CONTRIBUTING:

Knowledge-Professional: Basic knowledge of the principles and practices of nutrition and/or dietetics related to the specialty area. Ability to interpret and apply guidelines, program goals, and standards. Ability to research information for development of new programs.

Data Analysis/Records Administration: Ability to use established data/information systems and/or procedures to collect and store data/information; ability to review data and information for completeness and accuracy within well-defined parameters including charting of patient information within a clinical setting. Ability to assist higher level professionals with the preliminary calculation and analysis of data.

Patient Care: Ability to apply basic knowledge, processes, methods, and/or procedures for patient services. Ability to develop nutritional assessments, nutritional care plans, and dietary instructions. Ability to provide basic instruction to patients, students, and others regarding nutrition plans, techniques, and procedures.

Decision Making: Ability to follow standard nutrition/dietetic care plans and treatment programs.

JOURNEY

Knowledge-Professional: Full knowledge of the principles and practices of nutrition and/or dietetics related to the specialty area, to include application of nutritional theories and concepts. May act as a technical resource. Ability to interpret, apply, and recommend modifications to guidelines with limited technical oversight. May ability to assist in developing new strategies, programs, projects, or initiatives.

Data Analysis/Records Administration: Ability to compile and organize data/information from different sources to develop reports using established format. Ability to perform intermediate calculation and analysis of data involving identifying trends. Ability to assist in preparation of reports and/or publications.

Patient Care: Ability to apply full knowledge, processes, methods, and/or procedures for a variety of patient services. Ability to develop comprehensive nutritional assessments, nutritional care plans, and dietary instructions for patients with multisystemic medical/nutritional conditions. Ability to provide nutritional training and/or consultation to paraprofessional and professional staff, dietetic interns, agencies, and groups.

Decision Making: Ability to develop and adapt nutrition/dietetic care plans and treatment programs, as needed. May require ability to supervise the activities of a small nutritional program.

ADVANCED

Knowledge-Professional: Comprehensive knowledge of the theories, concepts, practices, and techniques of nutrition and/or dietetics related to the specialty area. Ability to independently interpret, apply, and/or modify guidelines. Ability to develop and/or manage new strategies, programs, projects, or initiatives.

Data Analysis/Records Administration: Ability to analyze and reconcile data/information for reports from different internal and external sources. May require ability to serve as a project/team leader. Ability to perform advanced data analysis involving identification and interpretation of trends in order to effect change in a program or facility setting. Usually involves quality control measures. Ability to co-author/author reports and/or publications.

Patient Care: Ability to apply comprehensive knowledge, processes, methods, and/or procedures for a variety of patient services. Mentor/train others. Ability to develop complex, comprehensive nutritional assessments, nutritional care plans, and dietary instructions for patients with a variety of chronic and acute medical/nutritional conditions who are high risk in a specialty area. Ability to provide advanced level nutritional training and consultation to medical staff, paraprofessionals, professionals, agencies, and groups. This most often includes in-service consultation with interdisciplinary teams.

Decision Making: Ability to develop and adapt complex nutrition/dietetic care plans and treatment programs. Ability to develop and operate multiple

small nutritional programs or a large program. Ability to participate in program administration including budget development.

MINIMUM TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Bachelor's degree in foods and nutrition dietetics or public health nutrition; or completion of an ADA Dietetic internship with ADA Commission. Eligibility for Dietetic Registration preferred. All degrees must be received from appropriately accredited institutions.

Special Note: This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to reflect essential functions per ADA. Examples of competencies are typical of the majority of positions, but may not be applicable to all positions.